

# District Court Judge

## Jane F. Kauvar, Fourth Judicial District



**DATE OF BIRTH:** July 21, 1948  
**PLACE OF BIRTH:** Denver, Colorado  
**NAME OF SPOUSE:** John Athens  
**CHILDREN:** Marika, Allison, Noah  
**MAILING ADDRESS:** 101 Lacey Street  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

**LENGTH OF RESIDENCY IN ALASKA:** 29 years  
Fairbanks 1973-present

### **EDUCATION:**

George Washington High School, 1963-1966; Scripps College, 1966-1968; University of Colorado, 1968-1970, B.A.; Boalt Hall School of Law, 1970-1973, J.D.

### **POLITICAL AND GOVERNMENT POSITIONS:**

Fairbanks Assistant Public Defender, State of Alaska, 1976-1981; Assistant District Attorney, State of Alaska, 1975-1976; Clerk to Chief Justice Rabinowitz, State of Alaska, 1973-1974.

### **BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS:**

Acting Superior Court Judge, beginning in April 2002; Deputy Presiding District Court Judge, 1997-present; District Court Judge, 1981-present.

### **SERVICE ORGANIZATION(S) MEMBERSHIP:**

Big Brothers/Big Sisters

### **SPECIAL INTERESTS:**

Soccer, bicycling, reading.

### **STATEMENT:**

I have served as a District Court Judge in Fairbanks for over twenty years. I have served as a Superior Court Judge ("pro tem") on a regular basis, and I have been appointed an Acting Superior Court Judge until there is a replacement for Judge Beistline. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve the public, and I believe I can offer the community the benefits of my many years of experience as a judge. I am committed to continuing to provide prompt, courteous, and fair hearings for every person who appears in court.

In addition, I am committed to the Fairbanks community. I have lived here for over twenty-nine years, I was married here, and our three children were born and raised here. Throughout the years, I have been actively involved in various community programs, and with education, through speaking at schools, and having school classes come to court for mock trials. I actively participate (usually as a walker) in many of the running events held throughout the year, and I play soccer with the women's soccer team.

I appreciate the community's past confidence in me as a judge, and I will continue to earn that confidence.

*provided and paid for by the candidate*

# Alaska Judicial Council Recommendation

## Judge Jane F. Kauvar, District Court, Fairbanks

**I. Judicial Council Evaluation.** The Alaska Judicial Council, a non-partisan citizens commission established by the Alaska Constitution, finds Judge Kauvar to be *Qualified* and recommends unanimously (5-0) that the public vote “Yes” to retain her as a district court judge.

**II. Summary of Evaluation Information.** A survey of 2,860 attorneys in Alaska rated Judge Kauvar on sixteen categories that are summarized in the adjacent graph. Attorneys rated Judge Kauvar 3.6 on a scale of 5 on overall judicial performance. She scored highest in the categories of “conduct free from impropriety” (3.9), “judicial temperament” (3.8) and “impartiality” (3.8). She scored lowest in “willingness to work diligently” (3.4).

	Attorney Survey	Peace Officer Survey	Juror Survey	Court Employee Survey
Legal Ability	3.6	---	---	---
Impartiality	3.8	4.0	4.8	4.1
Integrity	3.8	4.0	---	4.2
Temperament	3.8	4.0	4.8	4.3
Diligence	3.5	4.0	---	4.1
Special Skills	3.7	4.0	---	---
Overall	3.6	4.0	4.8	4.2

Ratings are based on a one to five scale. Five is the best rating and three is “acceptable.”

### Rating Scale

5.0 = Excellent

4.0 = Good

3.0 = Acceptable

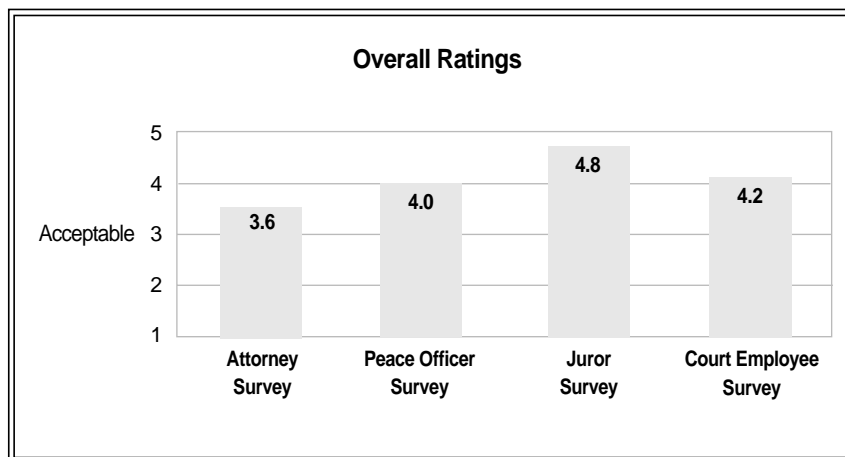
2.0 = Deficient

1.0 = Unacceptable

A survey of 1,704 peace and probation officers in Alaska rated Judge Kauvar on twelve categories that are summarized in the adjacent graph. Peace and probation officers rated Judge Kauvar 4.0 on a scale of 5 on overall judicial performance. She scored highest in the categories of “conduct free from impropriety” (4.1) and “understanding and compassion” (4.1). She scored 3.9 or better in all categories.

A survey of all jurors appearing before Judge Kauvar in 2000 and 2001 rated her 4.8 on a scale of 5 on overall performance. A survey of all court employees rated her 4.2 on a scale of 5 on overall performance.

The Council also completed a background investigation including a court records check, a disciplinary records check, a review of conflict of interest statements submitted to the court system and a review of financial disclosure statements submitted to the Alaska Public Offices Commission. Attorneys, peace officers, court employees and jurors were asked to submit written comments about the judge. The Council actively encouraged the public to comment, both in writing and in a statewide public hearing teleconference.



**Recommendation: Vote “YES” to retain Judge Kauvar**

*Contact the Judicial Council at 1029 W. 3rd, Suite 201, Anchorage, AK 99501 (telephone: (907) 279-2526) for more detailed information, or review the information on our Internet site at:*

[www.ajc.state.ak.us](http://www.ajc.state.ak.us)

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